Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for rebooking a passenger who is unable to travel on a scheduled flight on a carrier, comprising the steps of:

receiving a rebooking request from the passenger;

determining at least one rebooking flight candidate according to rebooking rules obtaining based on passenger data for said passenger and flight operations data;

comparing the passenger data with one or more rebooking rules for said carrier;

presenting a plurality of the determined at least one rebooking flight candidate candidates to said passenger with an incentive for encouraging the passenger to select a rebooking flight candidate preferred by the carrier, said presented flight candidates selected based upon said comparing step, wherein said selected flight candidates are presented to said passenger in an order preferred by said carrier for rebooking said passenger, said preferred order based on a ranking of said flight candidates according to the rebooking rules and said passenger data;

prompting said passenger to select one of said presented at least one rebooking flight candidate candidates; and

rebooking said passenger on the selected rebooking flight candidate one of said presented candidates.

2.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said presenting step comprises decreasing a number of said rebooking flight candidates presented to said passenger failing to meet criteria for high passenger value, said criteria comprising at

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least one among a frequent flyer status, a class of ticket, and a total value of tickets purchased by said passenger over a period of time.

3.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said passenger data of said passenger is compared to passenger data of at least one other passenger in need of rebooking, and said passenger is offered rebooking flight candidates based upon said comparing step.

4.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said passenger data is provided in substantially real time.

5.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said presenting step comprises presenting high remaining unflown value flight rebooking candidates and not presenting rebooking flight candidates with lower unflown values.

6.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said presenting step comprises offering said passenger incentives for selecting rebooking flight candidates with high remaining unflown value.

7.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said passenger data comprises the remaining unflown ticket value for said passenger.

8.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said passenger data comprises passenger loyalty data.

9.   (Currently Amended) A system for rebooking a passenger passengers who is are unable to travel on scheduled flights on a carrier, comprising:

     means for receiving a rebooking request from the passenger;

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means for determining at least one rebooking flight candidate according to rebooking rules based on passenger data for said passenger and flight operations data;

means for presenting the determined at least one rebooking flight candidate to said passenger with an incentive for encouraging the passenger to select a rebooking flight candidate preferred by the carrier;

means for prompting said passenger to select one of said presented at least one rebooking flight candidate; and

means for rebooking said passenger on the selected rebooking flight candidate

~~a data store comprising passenger data, rebooking rules for said carrier, and flight operations data for said carrier and one or more other carriers, said flight operations data comprising flight rebooking candidates for said passengers;~~

~~a re-accommodation engine having access to said data store for determining a plurality of said rebooking flight candidates to present to said passengers based on said passenger data and said rebooking rules; and~~

~~one or more user clients for presenting to said passengers said plurality of rebooking flight candidates determined by said engine and for prompting said passengers to select one of said presented flight candidates, wherein said determined rebooking flight candidates are presented to each of said passengers in an order preferred by said carrier for rebooking each of said passengers, the preferred order based on a ranking of said rebooking flight candidates according to the rebooking rules.~~

10.   (Cancelled).

11.   (Cancelled)

12.   (Cancelled).

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13.   (Currently Amended)   A computer-readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program having a plurality of code sections executable by a computer for causing the computer to perform a method for rebooking a passenger who is unable to travel on a scheduled flight on a carrier with the steps of:

receiving a rebooking request from the passenger;

determining at least one rebooking flight candidate according to rebooking rules based on passenger data for the passenger and flight operations data;

presenting the determined at least one rebooking flight candidate to the passenger with an incentive for encouraging the passenger to select a rebooking flight candidate preferred by the carrier;

prompting the passenger to select one of the presented at least one rebooking flight candidate; and

rebooking the passenger on the selected rebooking flight candidate

~~obtaining passenger data for a passenger unable to travel on a scheduled flight on a carrier; and~~

~~comparing the passenger data with one or more rebooking rules for said carrier;~~

~~presenting a plurality of rebooking flight candidates to said passenger, said presented flight candidates selected based upon said comparing step, wherein said selected flight candidates are presented to said passenger in an order preferred by said carrier for rebooking said passenger, said preferred order based on a ranking of said flight candidates according to the rebooking rules and said passenger data;~~

~~prompting said passenger to select one of said presented candidates; and~~

~~rebooking said passenger on the selected one of said presented candidates.~~

14.   (Previously Presented)   The computer-readable storage of claim 13, wherein said presenting step comprises decreasing a number of said rebooking flight candidates

presented to said passenger failing to meet criteria for high passenger value, said criteria comprising at least one among a frequent flyer status, a class of ticket, and a total value of tickets purchased by said passenger over a period of time.

15.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage of claim 13, wherein said passenger data of said passenger is compared to passenger data of at least one other passenger in need of rebooking, and said passenger is offered rebooking flight candidates based upon said comparing step.

16.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage of claim 13, wherein said passenger data is provided in substantially real time.

17.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage of claim 13, wherein said presenting step comprises presenting high remaining unflown value flight rebooking candidates and not presenting rebooking flight candidates with lower unflown values.

18.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage of claim 13, wherein said presenting step comprises offering said passenger incentives for selecting rebooking flight candidates with high remaining unflown value.

19.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage of claim 13, wherein said passenger data comprises the remaining unflown ticket value for said passenger.

20.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage of claim 13, wherein said passenger data comprises passenger loyalty data.

21.   (Previously Presented)   The computer-readable storage of claim 13, wherein said comparing step compares passenger data with flight operations data for said rebooking flight candidates.

22.   (Cancelled).

23.   (Cancelled).

24.   (Cancelled).

25.   (Currently Amended)   The system of claim [[24]] 9, wherein said means for presenting the determined at least one rebooking flight candidate is a telephone-based voice response unit VRU comprises comprising a text-to-speech system for presenting said flight candidates to said passenger and at least one among a speech recognition system and a dual tone multi-frequency recognizer system for receiving flight selection information from said passenger.

26.   (Cancelled).

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